

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

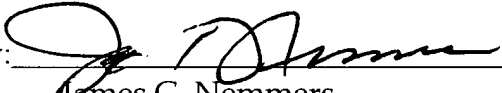
This paper is in response to the office action dated December 17, 2004, in which the Examiner has required Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits.

Applicant hereby elects the species of Fig. 5 and Fig. 5A, which species includes the specific fork of Fig. 4B. Claims readable on the species of Fig. 5 are Claims 1, 9, 19, 22, 23, 31/22, 32/31/22, 36/31/22 and 61.

Further and favorable action on this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 17, 2005.


James C. Nemmers, Registered Representative